

Manchester Urban Ponds Restoration Program

City of Manchester Environmental Protection Division

300 Winston Street

Manchester, NH 03103

Spring 2018 Program Update

(603) 665-6899 / www.manchesternh.gov/urbanponds

www.facebook.com/ManchesterUrbanPondsRestoration

Visit Us on the Web!

- ☐ [Clean-Up Events](#)
- ☐ [Water Quality Data](#)
- ☐ [Publications](#)

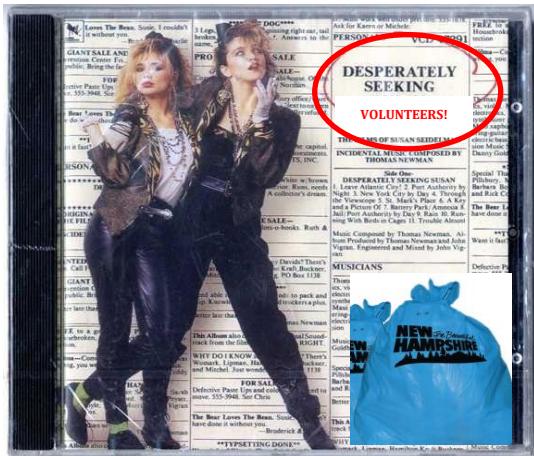


Volunteers help pick up trash at Stevens Pond / Stevens Pond Park (April 2017).
Photography courtesy of Martha Frechette

Desperately Seeking Susan Volunteers!

Please Join Us During Our [18th Annual Pond & Park Cleanup Events!](#)

- ☐ **Saturday April 21, 2018** (9:00 – 11:00) [Black Brook / Blodgett Park](#)
- ☐ **Saturday April 28, 2018** (9:00 – 11:00) [Stevens Pond / Park](#)
- ☐ **Saturday May 5, 2018** (9:00 – 11:00) [Nutts Pond / Precourt Park](#)



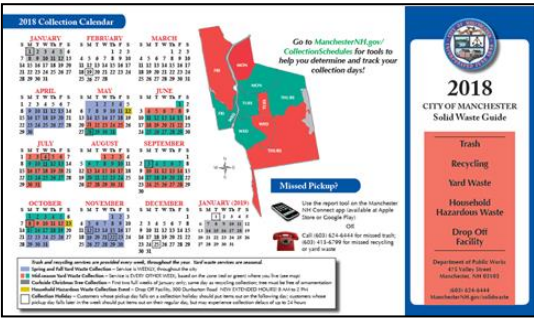
Please consider joining us during one or more of our Spring 2018 pond and park cleanup events. **We could really benefit from additional volunteer assistance**, and would like to see some new faces and make some new friends!

Please **dress appropriately for weather** (there are no “rain dates”) and wear **rubber knee boots** if you have them! Latex gloves and trash bags will be provided. Just bring yourself, a friend, and a sense of community spirit! Please arrive no later than 8:50am as we will break into groups and begin cleanups at 9:00am.

Since 2000, the Manchester Urban Ponds Restoration Program has organized 109 clean-up events. Over the past 17 years, 962 volunteers have spent 3,452 hours collecting 2,241 bags of trash! This does not include the items illegally “dumped” such as shopping carts (94), tires (415), car batteries, other car parts, construction debris, and other items. In addition, the value of volunteer time spent at these clean-ups has amounted to over \$57,000 over these past 17 years!

2018 City of Manchester Solid Waste Guide

Please take note that the City of Manchester has published its [2018 Solid Waste Guide](#) which discusses and includes a collection calendar for trash, recycling, yard waste, and household hazardous waste. Please also take note that the city's first **Household Hazardous Waste Day of 2018** will be held on Saturday May 12, 2018 from 8:00am – 2:00pm (the other to be held on October 13, 2018).



Recycling Reminders!

Recycling minimizes the need for landfill space, conserves natural resources, and reduces the air pollution and energy usage associated with mining of raw materials. The City collects [recyclables](#) along public streets throughout Manchester. The curbside program is single stream: all items can be placed together in your [blue recycling cart](#)! Collection is weekly in most areas, with more frequent pickups downtown.

Throughout most of Manchester, recyclables are collected using an automated process. To receive service, you must place all your recyclables in a [blue recycling cart](#) acquired from the City, place your recycling cart at the edge of the road, without blocking sidewalks, by 7 AM of your [collection day](#), and ensure your cart is at least three feet from any obstruction, with the handles and wheels facing your home or business.

Recyclable Items

The following items may be placed in your blue recycling cart:

- ☒ Aluminum Containers.
- ☒ Glass Bottles / Containers (Clear, Colored).
- ☒ Paper (Mail, Magazines, Newsprint).
- ☒ Paperboard (Cereal Boxes, Paper Towel Rolls, Etc.).
- ☒ Cardboard (Clean).
- ☒ Plastics Bottles and Containers (#1 – 7).
- ☒ Steel Containers.
- ☒ Tin / Tin Foil.

Non-Recyclable Items

The following items may not be placed in your blue recycling cart:

- ☒ Plastic Bags.
- ☒ Plastic Packaging.
- ☒ Plastic Straws.
- ☒ Plastic Wrapping.
- ☒ Styrofoam (Packing Material, Coffee Cups, Meat Trays).
- ☒ Spray Cans.
- ☒ Car Parts.
- ☒ Non-Container Metals.

Unsure if Something is Recyclable? Consult [What Goes Where](#) to find out!

Recycling Carts

If your property is outside of the downtown collection zone, you may request a free recycling cart by [signing up online](#) . If you already have a cart but consistently generate more recyclables than will fit, you may be eligible to upgrade to a larger one. [Contact Pinard Waste Systems](#), the City's recycling contractor, to discuss.

Drop Off Facility

Not eligible for curbside service or have more recycling this week than will fit in your cart? The Drop Off Facility accepts all recyclables collected curbside. Note that recycling at the facility is dual stream: paper/cardboard products must be separated from other materials.



Did You Know? Combined, over 6,900 tons of recyclables were diverted from the waste stream in 2017!

Automated Trash Collection Update

Mark Gomez, Environmental Programs Manager, City of Manchester

Now in its 11th month, the pilot program for automated trash collection has proven to be enormously successful. Worker safety, operational efficiency, litter reduction, and recycling rates have all improved in the pilot areas.

Automated trash collection is the use of a garbage truck fitted with a mechanical arm that grabs and empties trash containers. The truck is controlled by a single operator. Residents must place trash in a container compatible with the mechanical arm, such as the green, wheeled carts seen throughout the city.

The pilot areas include almost all of Ward 12 in the northwest corner of the city, and large portions of Ward 6 and Ward 7 in the central / eastern part of the city. Among the many benefits observed so far are:

- ☑ **Worker Safety:** There have been zero injuries associated with the automated truck, but over 40 injuries resulting in 1,500 hours lost among crews operating Manchester’s other garbage trucks over the same period.
- ☑ **Efficiency:** Preliminary data indicate that the automated truck is completing routes 10% faster, on average.
- ☑ **Litter Reduction:** The mandated trash containers have hinged lids that help reduce unintentional litter. Additionally, personnel freed up by the automated process have been deployed regularly to give extra attention to parks with heavy litter problems.
- ☑ **Recycling:** Recycling rates have increased throughout the city, but data show that recycling in the pilot areas has increased by 1.5 times the city average over the past year.

City of Manchester Trash Carts

The Department of Public Works has trash carts available for purchase by Manchester curbside collection customers. Carts are sold out of the [Drop Off Facility](#). Prices are:

	35 gallon – \$40
	65 gallon – \$60
	95 gallon – \$75

**Customers in automated collection pilot areas are eligible for significant discounts. Visit manchesternh.gov/automated for details.

Benefits include:

- ✓ **Durability** – Carts are made of tough plastic and backed by a 10-year warranty.*
- ✓ **Litter Reduction** – Hinged lids prevent intrusion by rain, snow, and animals.
- ✓ **Ease of Handling** – Carts are wheeled containers with large handles and a tilt feature.
- ✓ **Loss Prevention** – Each cart has an individualized serial number.

*Carts come with a 10-year warranty from the month and year of manufacture. Warranty repairs and replacements are handled through the City of Manchester [Drop Off Facility](#), located at 500 Dunbarton Road.

Department of Public Works staff anticipate going before the Board of Mayor and Aldermen within the next couple of months to report on the pilot program and recommend expansion. Should expansion be approved, a potential benefit to the mission of the Manchester Urban Ponds Restoration Program is redeployment of personnel to focus on illegal dumping and related compliance issues.



Left: Before and after photos showing better neighborhood aesthetics and reduced chance for litter as a result of the trash cart requirement.

Adopt-A-Block!

Downtown Adopt-A-Block is a neighborhood cleanup effort that happens once a year around Earth Day. It is the perfect opportunity to step out of your office and join [Intown Manchester's](#) “Clean Team” for a day to help keep Downtown Manchester clean and green!

This year's Adopt-A-Block will take place **Friday, April 20th from 1:00PM to 4:00PM**. Intown Manchester will be accepting applications for participants until April 9th.

To sign-up for this year's Adopt-A-Block and participate, download the [sign-up sheet](#) and mail it to: PO Box 659, Manchester, NH 03105, fax it to (603) 669-6597, or email it to tvazquez@intownmanchester.com. Your group will receive information about cleanup sites and where to meet up to a week before the event. Suggestions for cleanup sites are welcome and appreciated!



2017 Water Quality Reports Available

The formal [Volunteer Lake Assessment Program](#) (VLAP) and [Volunteer River Assessment Program](#) (VRAP) annual water quality reports from 2017 have been posted on-line and we've updated our own Water Quality Parameter Data Tables to include data collected this summer. Check out the [Water Quality Data](#) page to view the VLAP and VRAP reports and [All Ponds Water Quality Data Tables 2000-2017](#) to see how this year's data compares to previous years.

Manchester Urban Ponds Restoration Program Water Quality Parameter Data Tables 2000 - 2017

Disclaimer: Please note that the Chemical and Biological Parameters presented here were collected as part of the annual monitoring of the 10 Watershed Lake Assessment Program (WLAS) by the City of Manchester. The data presented here are for informational purposes only and are not intended to be used for regulatory or legal purposes. The data presented here are for informational purposes only and are not intended to be used for regulatory or legal purposes. The data presented here are for informational purposes only and are not intended to be used for regulatory or legal purposes.

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McQuesten Makeover!

Courtesy of the New Hampshire Rivers Council

Check out the sequence of Google Earth images from 2015 through 2017 that capture the transition of McQuesten Pond back to McQuesten Brook! Thanks to a huge partnership effort led by the [New Hampshire Rivers Council](#), this once-stagnant pond that was incapable of supporting fish species is once again a cold water reach of McQuesten Brook that will provide habitat and refuge for a population of wild, naturally-reproducing brook trout in Manchester, NH. Four dams were completely removed in the Manchester portion of the watershed, while in the Bedford portion of the watershed, one downstream culvert was completely removed, and an undersized culvert of 36 inches was replaced by a 15-foot wide bridge. Another project proving that partnerships, a diverse funding portfolio, and volunteer commitments can yield amazing restoration results in urban watersheds. We changed the face of Google Earth once again!



2015



2016



2017

New Posters in Informational Kiosks



Did you know that we maintain 10 informational kiosks? They are at Black Brook / Blodgett Park, Crystal Lake, Dorrs Pond / Livingston Park (two), McQuesten Brook / Wolfe Park, Nutts Pond / Precourt Park, Pine Island Pond / Pine Island Park, Piscataquog River Park, Stevens Pond / Stevens Pond Park, and Sundial Ave. In the spring of 2017, we re-posted the Piscataquog River Park and Sundial Ave kiosks with a few new posters. In the spring of 2018, we will be posting some of the new posters in the other kiosks as well so keep an eye out for them!

The Basics of Stormwater



Water Quality Problems

Stormwater runoff from impervious surfaces like parking lots, roads, and buildings carries pollutants from those surfaces into storm-drains and into rivers and streams. This is now the largest source of water pollution in the nation.

Water Quantity Problems

Impervious surfaces like parking lots, roads, and buildings cause stormwater to run off very quickly resulting in increased flooding during storm events, and reduced ability for precipitation to soak back into the groundwater table to feed wetlands, streams, and drinking water wells.

Possible Contaminants in Stormwater

- Excess nutrients (total phosphorus, nitrogen).
- Excess sediment (sand, silt).
- Pathogens such as *E. coli* (can cause illness).
- Toxics (heavy metals, chemicals, oils, etc.).
- Chlorides (road salt).

For more information on stormwater and how you can become part of the solution, please visit the Manchester Environmental Protection Division website at: www.manchester.nh.gov/Departments/Environmental-Protection/Stormwater/Public-Participation

How Can I Help Protect Clean Water?

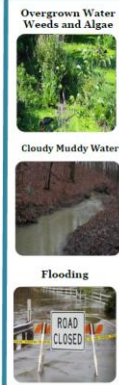
Rain runs off my impervious surface:



By installing a stormwater solution such as:



I can help solve this stormwater issue:



For more information on stormwater and how you can become part of the solution, please visit the Manchester Environmental Protection Division website at: www.manchester.nh.gov/Departments/Environmental-Protection/Stormwater/Public-Participation

Just Remember,



When your car is leaking oil on the street, it's not just leaking oil on the street.



When you're washing your car in the driveway, you're not just washing your car in the driveway.



When you're fertilizing your lawn, you're not just fertilizing your lawn.



Pet waste from the lawn, sidewalk, or street doesn't just stay there!

- Oil can leak from your vehicle onto a street, into a storm drain, and pollute Manchester's waterbodies. Imagine the number of vehicles in the city and the amount of oil that can find its way into our water. Please fix oil leaks to help keep Manchester's waterbodies clean!
- Soap, suds, and oily grit from washing your vehicle can enter a storm drain and pollute Manchester's waterbodies. Please wash your vehicle on the grass or gravel instead of the street or take it to a car wash where the water gets treated and recycled.
- Rain can wash fertilizer into a storm drain and pollute Manchester's waterbodies. This can cause algae to grow, which can use up oxygen that fish need to survive. If you fertilize, please follow directions and use sparingly.
- Rain can wash pet waste and bacteria into a storm drain and pollute Manchester's waterbodies. Please dispose of pet waste properly to help keep Manchester's waterbodies clean!

Pollution Reduction: Every Home Matters!

The following practices can help you reduce the stormwater runoff that your home contributes to the watershed.

Vehicles and Equipment

- Service your vehicles and other motorized equipment regularly to ensure they are not leaking fluids. Immediately clean up any leaked fluids.
- Wash your car at a carwash that recycles and reuses wash water and uses non-toxic cleaners.
- If you wash your vehicle at home, park on a grass or pervious area, use non-toxic soap, and minimize water use by running the hose only when needed.

Lawn Care

- Reduce the area of your lawn by planting low-maintenance, native groundcover, flowers, shrubs, and trees instead of conventional turf lawns. Native plants require less water, herbicides, pesticides, fertilizers, and trimming.
- Test your soil to see what it actually needs before applying fertilizer (contact your county UNH Cooperative Extension office for soil testing info). If fertilizer is necessary, use a slow-release type to avoid excess nutrient run-off.
- If you have an irrigation system, ensure that it has a rain or soil-moisture sensor to prevent watering during, or shortly following, rain events.
- Aerate your lawn to help the soil breathe and promote stronger root systems.
- Raise and keep your lawnmower deck at a height of 3" or more.
- Leave mulched grass clippings on your lawn to naturally fertilize and prevent evaporation to reduce the amount you need to water.

Landscaping

- Rather than rinsing down your driveway with a hose, which may deliver pollutants to a waterbody, sweep it or use a shop vacuum to collect debris.
- Reduce your impervious surfaces. Choose natural native ground cover or materials that allow rain water to seep into the ground such as gravel, stepping stones, wood chips, or other porous surfaces.
- Direct runoff from impervious areas to pervious ones. For example, direct the downspout from your roof gutter away from your driveway and instead into a vegetated area such as a swale or garden.

Winter Maintenance

- Reduce the amount of salt and salt-based commercial ice melting products used on your driveway and walkways. A thorough shoveling or sweeping of snow cover can reduce the need for salt. Use sand to provide traction when needed. Sweep up excess sand and salt as soon as the pavement dries.

Pet Waste

- Pick up pet waste. Flush it down the toilet, put it in the trash, or bury it in the yard at least 3" deep and away from vegetable gardens, wells, and waterways.
- Do not put pet waste (or any other refuse) into storm drains as they often drain directly to rivers and lakes.

For more information on stormwater and how you can become part of the solution, please visit the Manchester Environmental Protection Division website at: www.manchester.nh.gov/Departments/Environmental-Protection/Stormwater/Public-Participation





Thanks to Manchester Parks, Recreation & Cemeteries, the informational kiosk on Sundial Ave recently received a new sign name! It previously read "Manchester Conservation Commission." To be more consistent with our other kiosks, the sign name was changed to "Merrimack River." We couldn't be more pleased!

A Note About Your Sewer Service Connection

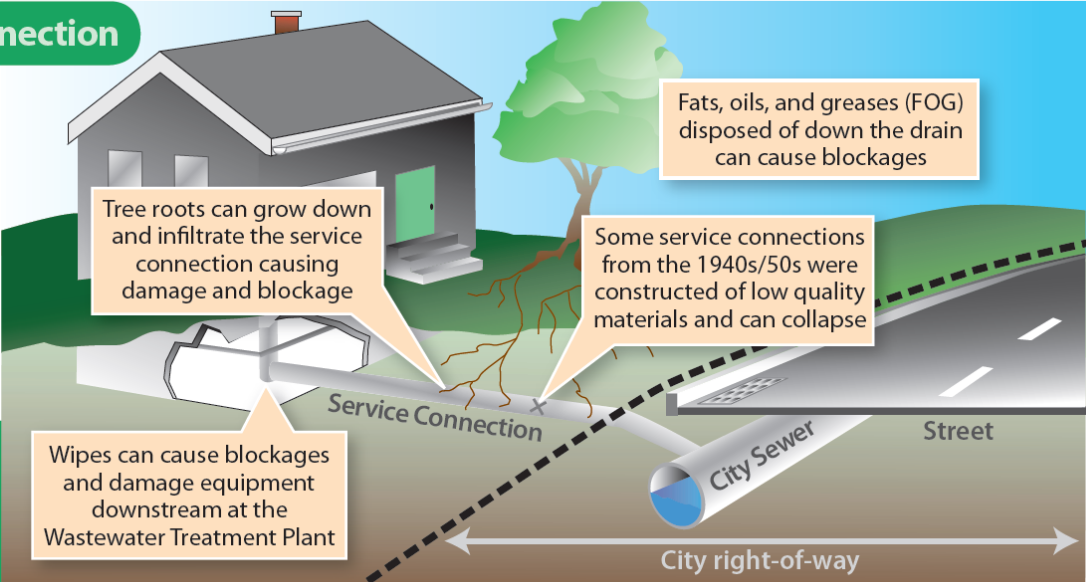
Courtesy of Manchester Environmental Protection Division

Your Sewer Service Connection

City of Manchester, NH
Department of Public Works
Environmental Protection
Division (EPD)
300 Winston Street
Manchester, NH 03103





Property owner is responsible for service connection from building to city sewer in street



Sewer Facts

City of Manchester, NH
Department of Public Works
Environmental Protection
Division (EPD)
300 Winston Street
Manchester, NH 03103



EPD, a Division of The Department of Public Works, provides services for the collection and treatment of wastewater for Manchester and portions of Bedford, Goffstown and Londonderry. EPD functions as an enterprise and is fully supported by user fees and grants. Our mission is to strive to provide the highest quality services at the most competitive costs while maintaining all permit requirements in accordance with Federal and State requirements.

About 50% of the city's sewer system is "combined", meaning there is a single pipe to convey both wastewater and stormwater. During storm events the capacity of this single pipe may be exceeded and could lead to residential backups. If your property experiences sewer backups during rain events, contact your plumber and evaluate having a *back-flow preventer* or *check-valve* installed.

The city owns, operates, and maintains 386 miles of sewer and 190 miles of drain.

Oldest sewer built in 1846. Newest sewer built in 2018. Over 100 miles of sewer is over 100 years old.

Billing is based on water consumption and a service fee based on property characteristics.

Questions General: call 603-624-6595 or visit the website ManchesterNH.gov/Departments/Environmental-Protection
Billing: call 603-624-6522 or email EPD_Billing@ManchesterNH.gov
Blockage: call 603-624-6444 or visit the website ManchesterNH.gov/Home/Manchester-NH-Connect

Manchester Urban Ponds Restoration Program E-Mail Distribution List



The Manchester Urban Ponds Restoration Program uses our email distribution list to distribute our annual e-newsletter and to provide information relative to upcoming spring pond and park cleanups and the results of those cleanups. We hope that you enjoy receiving these few emails a year. However, **we are updating our email distribution list**, and if for any reason you would like to be removed from it, please reply to this email with "Unsubscribe" in the email subject line and we would be happy to remove you from the list. Thank you!